

AROUND THE FARM.

[FROM OUR AGRICULTURAL EDITOR.]

THIS FARM FOR SALE.

BY T. C. HABRUGH.

With weary heart and trembling hand
I guide the team, ached by the load,
The grief I try to shield,
The skies are low'ring overhead,
The Master's word is law,
Put up this board, and write thereon,
These words: "This farm for sale."

With the honest broad and fair—
The world is full of care,
Shall strangers sit where I have sat,
Around the family hearth?

That made her father's pride,
The place where laughing Nell was born—
The spot where white died?

With a smile I left with memories
So dear to me,

The mossy spring, the burly brook,

The leaping apple-tree, the boughs of the old ones

Rise up and touch my arm;

Hear their pleading voices now;

Embraced within my heart of hearts

The house where I was born,

One summer night when heaven's rain

Was falling on the earth,

The room where I have often passed

Beneath the chaste rod—

The star of God early on

White I have strength to give the axe—

While I can toll and bring the sweat

I'll keep misfortune's wof at bay!

Love triumphs over gold—

Take down that board, and break it—

The farm shall not be sold!

THE BEST CROPS TO RAISE.

One Object in Raising Different Crops is That Less Force Can Keep the Work Up.

The five-field system of rotation is general in this section, commencing with corn one year, and the second year oats, followed in the fall by winter wheat, timothy seed being sown with the wheat in the fall, clover in the spring; fourth year, grass for pasture; fifth year, now, for hay, and after used for pasture.

Probably this is as good a selection of crops as can be grown in this latitude. I think

where land is suitable for potatoes that is convenient and the necessary force is on hand to plant and cultivate them. They are a crop

that will not admit of delay in cultivating, and the bog warfare must be decisive, or the crop is lost.

Flax may pay, but I have had no experience with it. I believe a better man would be able to judge of its value.

As a winter crop, I have never seen grass fall on the ground with as at \$20 per ton.

The whole matter is a question of dollars and cents. If the rent of the land is more than the cost of fertilizers, it will not pay to let the ground lie idle to reinvigorate itself for the coming crop. With high-priced labor to hire and manure to be had, the cost of growing the fallow system is surely the cheapest.

I would suggest that 100 acres could be cropped economically in this way: say two acres for buildings, garden, small lawn, etc., two acres for road, five acres for timber, five acres for apple orchard, one acre for peaches and cherries, one acre for peaches, leaving six for the vegetable garden, and so on.

Boxes similar to those that are used in hothouses will serve for this purpose. Such boxes should be watched, watered, turned, etc., day after day.

After the plants have grown to some size they should be "pricked out" in similar boxes, to give them more room to make a good growth in time for setting out in the garden. The plants are to be taken from the boxes and the earth from the stems and mixed with leaves. It should be in a heating state, and put in layers, and well heated or tramped down. A layer of six inches of rich soil is put on the manure, in which the seeds are sown. The heat for the first few days will be too intense for the seeds and they must not be left in the sun, but the temperature must be 80°.

Many prefer to sow the seeds in flat boxes or wooden trays about two inches deep.

When these boxes are used, the soil over the manure need not be from the stems or mixed with leaves.

It should be in a heating state, and the plants are to be started in the boxes and the earth from the stems and

mixed with leaves. As agriculturists we feel interested in none of the air-food elements except nitrogen. The soil food of plants—the plant food in which they yield it largely are regarded as far more valuable than those which do not yield it, and owe most of its excellence as a fertilizer to its nitrogenous properties, and the same may be said of fowl-house manure and cotton-seed meal. Hydrogen is obtained in combination with water, generally through the air, but sometimes through the soil. It is very abundant, and consequently, though not as a valuable element, it is of great importance as a fertilizer.

The greater part of the nitrogen in the general rule a hothouse should be started about six weeks before it is time to set the plants in the open ground. A hothouse is a cold-frame with a layer of manure added below the seedbed, to furnish heat for the forcing of the plants. The materials needed are the frame, sashes and manure. The size of sash is 3x6 feet, with five inches of glass in each, in which are run lengthwise.

The frame is built of rough boards set in a pit, and extends above the surface of the ground, a foot at the rear, and four to six inches in front. Slats from the front to the rear across the edges of the frame where the edges of the sashes meet, to hold them in place. The manure may be taken from the stems or mixed with leaves. It should be in a heating state, and the plants are to be started in the boxes and the earth from the stems and mixed with leaves. As agriculturists we feel interested in none of the air-food elements except nitrogen. The soil food of plants—the plant food in which they yield it largely are regarded as far more valuable than those which do not yield it, and owe most of its excellence as a fertilizer to its nitrogenous properties, and the same may be said of fowl-house manure and cotton-seed meal. Hydrogen is obtained in combination with water, generally through the air, but sometimes through the soil. It is very abundant, and consequently, though not as a valuable element, it is of great importance as a fertilizer.

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THE POET'S COLUMN.

"DOMESTIC ASIDES, OR, TRUTH IN PARENTHESIS."

BY TOM HODD.

"T'really take it very kind,
This visit, Mrs. Skinner;
I have a little time to spare
(The witch has come to dinner!)

"Your daughters too, what loves of girls,
What heads for painters' easels;
Come here and kiss the infant, dears;
(And give me a kiss, too, dears!)

"With little girls left at home?
Well, now I shall think that so;
I should have loved to kiss her so;
(The baby, baby, baby!)

"Your charming boy, see his home
From the window. We'll bring him home;
'Twas very kind to bring them both;
(What boots for my new Brussels!)

"And Mr. S., I hope he's well;
He's not ill, he lives so handy;
How I'm sorry, of course, for the day;
(The baby, baby, baby, I heart the carriage!)

"What, must you go? next time, I hope,
You'll give me longer leisure.
Nay, I shall see you down the stairs;
(With a kiss, and a kiss, and a kiss!)

"Good-bye, my dearest; remember all
Next time you take your dinners;
(Now, David, mind; I'm not at home
In future to the Skinners!)

LOVE'S WILD IMAGINING.

BY E. W. GOOSE.

Today the winter winds are wet,
And the sun is dark, and the sun is wet;
The autumn of the year is done,
Its leaves all fallen, its flowers stars set,
Its frosty hours begun.

Should last year's gold, nucleus year
For a crown, a rose, a hair, a vain;
No brief days, no stars in turn;
Must shoot and shun and waste.

Sweet, had the years that slipped so fast
But now, to us, are still too late;
How had we gnashed our teeth at fate,
And wandered down to death at last?

Shortly before the stars were here,
Before the moon was set in heaven,
Your unbosom soul to mine was given,
For me was formed and shun.

Al! surely none it ever was
When we were not; and our souls' light
Made these cold spaces infinite.

The stars, the stars, the stars, the glass,
Seen only in God's sight.

How'er it be, one my desire,
It chance has brought us face to face,
Or the scheme of things found place
To make us meet, and here we lie
In strange foraging-grave.

How'er it be, for us at least,
The woodland pathways are not dark,
Nor the sunbeams, nor the stars, nor the
Rain in the darkness, sunshot east.
We hear a mountain lark.

MAXIMUS.

BY ADELAIDE A. PROCTOR.

Many, if God should make them kings,
Might not disgrace the throne He gave;
Howe'er, the world is full

The hollow office of a slave.

I hold him great who, for love's sake,
Can give with generous, earnest will;

Yet he who takes, for love's sweet sake,
I hold him small, yet still.

I judge the instant that can not be,
From vain pretense with proud disdain;

Yet more I prize a simple hoat
Paying credit with pain.

I have before the noble mind,
The power to make us all forgive;

Yet nobler is the one forgiven,
Who bears that burden well and lives.

It may be hard to gain, and still
To keep a lowly, steadfast heart;

Yet, in the name of love, and he
A harder and a truer part.

Glorious it is to wear the crown
Of deserved and pure success;

But it is not to fall, it is to rise;

A crown who busts in less.

Great may he who can command,
And rule with lust and tender sway;

Yet is diviner wisdom taught;

But, in the name of love, who can

Be a greater conqueror in His sight.

MANY YEARS AGO.

BY CHARLES A. DANA.

By the lake beyond the meadow,
Where the lilies blow;

As the young moon dimpled and diffused
Her reflected bloom.

Like a dream of dream of beauty
Many years ago.

Something made the milk white blossoms
Even white grow;

Something gave the dying sunset

With the sunsets go;

To the lake, who have suffered

Martyrdom below.

By the lake beyond the meadow,
Where the lilies blow.

On the glory that then perished

None now know;

Where a human heart was broken,

Many years ago.

MEASURE THE BABY.

BY CHARLES A. DANA.

We measured the infants bony

Against the cottage wall;

A lily grew at the threshold;

And the red rose just at all;

A royal lily, too.

With spots of purple and gold,

And a golden rose, and a pale rose;

The fragrant dew to hold.

Without the blackbirds whistle

High up in the old roof trees,

And the red rook, her hoo;

And the pink flocks of the baby

Were white, and the pink flocks of

And the pink flocks of the baby

That danced on the window-sill.

His eyes were wide as bluebells,

His mouth like a flower unbloom;

Two red roses, two white mice,

Peeped out from his snowy gown;

And we thought, with a thrill of rapture,

That he was a budding rose,

Lay side by side together, lay still,

In the dusk of a long repose.

Upon the fainty pillow,

The fair little face lay smiling

With the light of heaven's lamp;

And we thought, with a thrill of rapture,

That he was a budding rose,

When I read of his roses.

We measured the sleeping baby

With ribbons white as snow;

For the shining rosewood basket;

That the pink flocks of the baby

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WINTER: AN ELEGY.

BY CHARLES A. DANA.

Look from my blythe window

Over the snowy plain;

A hearse and a band of mourners

Are creeping through the rain.

The memory of summer is gone,

And the lark and the lark from heaven—

—And the day goes on.

A gentle word is never lost;

It clings to me when tempest-tossed;

And lulls the care that bruse one;

And turns our thoughts to our way,

And the facts that were wont to be,

And love, are dead and departing—

—It's winter with me.

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It clings to me when tempest-tossed;

And lulls the care that bruse one;

And turns our thoughts to our way,

And the facts that were wont to be,

And love, are dead and departing—

—It's winter with me.

A gentle word is never lost;

It clings to me when tempest-tossed;

And lulls the care that bruse one;

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